

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
FINANCE/GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
ACTION ITEM**

SUBJECT: **CONTRACT RENEWAL/Verizon Telecommunications Services**

ELECTION DISTRICT: Countywide

CRITICAL ACTION DATE: June 14, 2016

STAFF CONTACTS: Wendy Wickens, Information Technology
Marilee Ciehoski, Information Technology
Sandra Lineberry, Finance and Procurement

PURPOSE: To obtain award authority approval for Verizon Telecommunications Services.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends that the Finance/Government Operations and Economic Development Committee recommend to the Board of Supervisors (Board) that the Purchasing Agent be authorized to use the Network Virginia contract with Verizon/Bell Atlantic for the continued lease, maintenance, and upgrades of existing telecommunication circuits in the estimated amount of \$1,080,000.

BACKGROUND: The Department of Information Technology provides data network connectivity to 125 facilities owned or leased by the County located throughout Loudoun. The data network enables staff access to the following:

- County information systems,
- the email system,
- the Internet,
- personal computer security patches,
- software upgrades,
- video conferencing, and
- telephone/voice mail services.

County government facilities that are not connected to the County-owned fiber are provided network access through Verizon/Bell Atlantic services. Verizon/Bell Atlantic provides service for 65, or 52% of the County's owned or leased County facilities. Since FY 2011, the County has been contracting through the state-wide Network Virginia (NWV) contract for these services through Verizon/Bell Atlantic.

NWV is an initiative led by Virginia Tech in association with Old Dominion University and the Virginia Community College System to develop universal access to advanced digital communications services. Participants include: four-year colleges and universities, the Virginia Community College System, private schools, and K-12 school systems, local governments, and state agencies including the Department of Health, the Virginia Employment Commission, the Department of General Services, the Virginia State Library, the State Police, and the Institute of Marine Science.

The current contract expires on June 30, 2016. The intent of this item is to obtain contract renewal approval for the period July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017 for Verizon/Bell Atlantic telecommunication services in the amount of \$1,080,000. These services were planned for and included in the FY 2017 Adopted Budget as part of the Department of Information Technology's operational budget.

ISSUES: Failure to provide connectivity to the Internet and the County's remote facilities would have a serious impact upon County-wide government operations, as all County government data and voice communications, plus some video communication are provided through this County network.

FISCAL IMPACT: Sufficient funding for these services is available in the Department of Information Technology's FY 2017 operating budget.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Recommend to the Board that the Purchasing Agent be authorized to renew the Network Virginia contract with Verizon/Bell Atlantic for the continued lease, maintenance, and upgrades of existing telecommunication circuits through FY 2017 in the estimated amount of \$1,080,000.

OR

2. Do not recommend the contract award authority approval, however, this alternative is not recommended for the reasons stated above.

DRAFT MOTIONS:

1. I move that the Finance/Government Operations and Economic Development Committee recommend to the Board of Supervisors that the Purchasing Agent be authorized to use the Network Virginia contract with Verizon/Bell Atlantic for the continued lease, maintenance, and upgrades of existing telecommunication circuits in the estimated amount of \$1,080,000.

OR

2. I move an alternate motion.